



Comptroller General
of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548

Decision

Matter of: Stone Container Company

File: B-257192

Date: May 9, 1994

DECISION

Stone Container Company protests the award of a contract by the Department of Justice under solicitation No. 1PI-B-0882-94.

We dismiss the protest because a protester's challenge to the awardee's ability to perform the contract is generally not reviewed by our Office.

A determination that a bidder or offeror is capable of performing a contract is based, in large measure, on subjective judgments which generally are not susceptible to reasoned review. Thus, an agency's affirmative determination of a contractor's responsibility will not be reviewed by our Office absent a showing of possible fraud or bad faith on the part of procurement officials, or that definitive responsibility criteria in the solicitation may have been misapplied. 4 C.F.R. § 21.3(m)(5); King-Fisher Co., B-236687.2, Feb. 12, 1990, 90-1 CPD ¶ 177. Where, as here, there is no showing of possible fraud or bad faith, or that definitive responsibility criteria have been misapplied, we have no basis to review the protest.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John M. Melody", is positioned above the typed name.

John M. Melody
Acting Associate General Counsel